



# Oakridge Acres



### NEW SIDEWALKS:

EAST MILE RD, OBAN CRES,  
WEST MILE RD, NORTH  
MILE RD, AND GREEN LANE

## Inception of Community Involvement

- Notification of the meeting in support of the proposed changes was sent out by the city
  - It is our understanding that houses to be affected in 2018 did not receive a notification
  - Work done in 2017 will directly affect residents in 2018 (i.e. sidewalks and prescribed road widths)
- Due to the city's stance on sidewalks presented at the meeting:
  - A group of concerned residents was formed
  - A survey of the entire area to be affected was completed through a petition including one simple question "Do you support sidewalks in the area"
- Over 92% of people in the area did not support the installation of sidewalks
  - Residents opposed to sidewalks encompassed a wide range of demographics, from families with small children through to the elderly

## Stated Concerns from the City and Community in Support

- Safety
  - Schools and churches nearby
  - Young Children / Elderly / People with limited mobility
- Walkability
  - Accessible to alternate modes of transportation
    - Walking
    - Cycling
    - Mobility aids
- Adherence to the London Plan
  - Overarching goals for green city including mobility and accessibility

## Community Response to Perceived Concerns

- Safety
  - There have been no known accidents within the areas in question
    - Anecdotal evidence from neighbourhood residents as to the safety is plentiful
    - Residents made an inquiry to the London Police department as to reported accidents or issues in the area, of which the police had none
    - In reference to the Riverside Public School safety concerns, many are centered around "drop off" areas for children and with the exception of a small stretch of Oban, not in the area of this proposed project
  - Extremely low traffic volumes
    - We are not "through streets"
    - Anecdotal evidence from residents shows that the traffic is minimal and it is almost exclusively people who live in the area
    - The areas in question do not register for traffic volumes on the London Map
- Walkability
  - Our area is one of the more walked portions of Oakridge
    - Many residents from surrounding streets as well as local residents walk in our area
- Adherence to the London Plan
  - As stated on pg. 2 of the city report on this issue included in the agenda, there are "limited circumstances under which no sidewalk would be considered". We are asking to be included under this umbrella

## Community Goals

The Community's goals are to maintain the look and feel of our neighbourhood as an Urban Forest while incorporating what improvements are necessary. These improvements should respect the character of the neighbourhood and minimize impact on the existing green space.

The above goal directly translates into the following actions:

- Minimizing the concrete/asphalt ground cover
- Maintain all trees and greenery possible
- Retain and treat rainwater locally in order to support the existing and future greenery

## Considerations for Modifications to the Current Plan

Taking the previously stated goals into account, we ask that the following modifications are made to the plan:

- 7 meter roads vs the proposed 8 meter roads
  - If the area was to be classified under current standards, as this project aims to do, we would be considered windowed residential streets and only require a 7 meter wide road
- No sidewalks OR
  - Narrower sidewalks abutting the curbs
  - Include the width of the curb-top in the width needed for the sidewalk
  - Consider permeable sidewalks to maximize water retention in the area
- Maximize the use of Low Impact Development (LID) techniques
  - Maintain as much ground water as we can in the area to be processed locally and return to the watershed naturally